



City of Santa Clara Parks & Recreation Department  
Santa Clara Senior Center  
1303 Fremont St., Santa Clara, CA 95050  
(408) 615-3170

Office hours:  
Mon.-Fri., 7:00 AM-4:30 PM  
Sat., 9:00 AM-11:30 AM  
Sun., Closed

# ***Adventures to Go...***

## **carefree travel for ages 50 plus**

### **February 2012 Newsletter**

#### **Day Trips**

World of Steinbeck, February 9  
Golden Girls of Pop, February 14  
Marvelous Wonderettes, February 26  
Jackson Rancheria Casino, February 29  
Greystone & Oxbow Market, March 6  
Whale Watching Expedition, March 14  
*NEW!* Red Hawk Casino, March 20  
Cirque du Soleil TOTEM, March 23  
Filoli Gardens & San Mateo Historical Museum, March 29  
*NEW!* Day at Pier 39, April 12  
*NEW!* ARF & Lindsay Wildlife Museum, April 18  
*NEW!* Golden Gate Fields, April 26  
*NEW!* SFO Aviation Library & Museum, May 10  
*NEW!* SF Giants vs. St. Louis Cardinals, May 17

#### **Overnight Trips**

Palm Springs Getaway, February 21-24  
Yosemite Getaway, April 29-May 1

**Trip descriptions are listed on the following pages.**  
**Register early! Trips fill quickly. Waitlists available.**  
**All trips are open to Santa Clara Residents and Non-Residents.**

#### **Let's Talk Travel!**

**Next meeting: February 22, 12:30 p.m.**

Join us and *Let's Talk Travel!* We meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m. in the Mezzanine. Come and learn more about upcoming tours, see travel presentations, or just to talk travel. Santa Clara residents can register for newly released tours following *Let's Talk Travel*. Call (408) 615-3170 for more information.

## Adventures to Go – General Information

**Trip Availability:** All trips are open to Santa Clara residents and non-residents, age 50 plus. Priority registration is given to residents for new trips released after *Let's Talk Travel* on the fourth Wednesday of the month; non-residents can register on the following Monday. Register early! Trips fill quickly! Wait lists are created once trips fill; those on the wait list are called as spaces become available. Trips not reaching the minimum enrollment required will be canceled.

**Senior Center Registration Form:** Travelers are required to complete a Senior Center registration form and sign a liability release each calendar year prior to participation in the *Adventures to Go* travel program.

**Trip Attendance:** Only those officially registered for a trip may attend. Participant substitutions are not allowed at time of check-in on day of trip. All travelers must register in advance at the Santa Clara Senior Center and have a current registration form on file.

### Refund Policy:

- **Day/Extended Trips** – Please choose wisely; refunds will ONLY be given when a replacement can be found from the Senior Center trip wait list or trip is cancelled by the Senior Center.
- **Travel Insurance** – The Santa Clara Senior Center recommends you consider travel insurance, especially for extended trips. Check online at: <http://www.insuremytrip.com/> or go to any other insurance provider of your choosing.

**Trip Substitutions:** Trip itineraries may be modified due to unforeseen circumstances. Every effort will be made to replace the location and/or activity with one that is similar. Refunds are not guaranteed should there be a change in itinerary.

**Trip Activity Levels/Special Needs:** Activity levels listed are offered as a guideline. Travelers with accessibility concerns, special needs, or questions should call the Senior Center office.

**Trip Pick-Up/Drop-Off:** Trips leave from and return to the old police station parking lot, near the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Civic Center Drive, in Santa Clara. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before trip departure for check-in. Motor coach will leave promptly at time specified. *Please note:* During a trip, if a situation (urgent or non-urgent) arises where you are unable to meet-up with your "travel group" at the pre-designated time and place identified by the tour escort(s), it will be your responsibility and expense to make arrangements to get yourself home. This would also apply to any other traveler who may decide to stay with you. A tour escort is not able to stay behind with you for any situation that may occur.

**Gratuities:** Trip fees include a modest gratuity for the driver of the motor coach and servers at hosted meals. When you experience exceptional service, you may choose to tip an additional amount. City of Santa Clara employees and tour escorts cannot accept gratuities.

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**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)** – In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department will ensure that all existing facilities will be made accessible to individuals with disabilities. Reasonable modifications in policies, procedures, and/or practices will be made as necessary to ensure full and equal access and enjoyment of all programs and activities for all individuals with a disability. In order to allow participation by individuals with severe allergies, environmental illnesses, multiple chemical sensitivity, or related disabilities, please **DO NOT wear scented products** to programs/activities at City facilities. Contact the Santa Clara Senior Center at (408) 615-3170 with accessibility concerns specific to this facility, and the Parks and Recreation office at (408) 615-2260 for accessibility concerns regarding other parks and recreation facilities/programs. For all other ADA questions, contact the City Clerk's office at (408) 615-2220.

## Adventures to Go – Trip Information

Trip availability can change from day to day. Contact the Senior Center office for registration information, (408) 615-3170.

**World of Steinbeck    No. 44687    Thursday, February 9**

**\$97 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 1/2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

Welcome museum explorers, art lovers, readers, scholars and Steinbeckians to the Valley of the World in Steinbeck Country. In these times of in-depth reflection, we often require an awakening of the mind, body, and spirit, and that is just what is offered at the one and only place of its kind: the National Steinbeck Center, a cultural museum and archival resource center. John Steinbeck once said, "I have come to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. Teaching might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit." In respect to these wise words, the National Steinbeck Center is indeed a source of knowledge to its community and visitors. The multi-sensory museum offers three distinct visitor experiences: the John Steinbeck Exhibition Hall presents a journey through the Nobel Prize-winning author's life and work; the Rabobank Agriculture Museum, which explores the roots of Salinas Valley agriculture through interactive displays, family stories and memorabilia; and changing galleries that host exhibitions of regional and national importance. Due to the highly interactive nature of this museum, self-guided touring is recommended. Before visiting the museum we'll experience John Steinbeck's birthplace and boyhood home, The Steinbeck House. We'll enjoy a docent talk and hosted lunch in the beautiful restored and maintained Queen Anne style Victorian home. *Bus leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

**Golden Girls of Pop    No. 44688    Tuesday, February 14**

**\$96 per person**

**Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 1/2 hour drive; long period of sitting.**

Join us for a Valentine's Day treat. Long-time favorite Marianne Kent sings songs of famous female pop vocal stars at a lunchtime cabaret show at Castagnola's in San Francisco. From Peggy Lee to Judy Garland and Rosemary Clooney and Doris Day, this is a live cabaret revue with musical nostalgia, remembering some of our favorite female entertainers. Hosted lunch will include choice of Snapper served with Rice Pilaf and mixed vegetables or Pasta Primavera. All meals include a cup of House Made Clam Chowder served with fresh baked Sourdough Bread, Creme Brulee, and Ice Tea, Coffee, Hot Tea. *Bus leaves promptly at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 4:30 PM.*

**Palm Springs Getaway    No. 44685    Tuesday-Friday, February 21-24**

**Per person: \$726 double occupancy, \$926 single occupancy**

**Full payment is due at time of registration.**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 9 hour drive to Palm Springs with stops along the way.**

Join us for a winter getaway to Palm Springs. We will travel by Royal Coach Tours motor coach and stay in deluxe accommodations at the Spa Casino Resort. The hotel/casino offers many dining and entertainment options including 24-hour live gaming action. On day two, we'll enjoy a matinee performance of the Fabulous Palm Springs Follies, featuring great music and dancing, and the very talented Maureen McGovern as your host. This Grammy-nominated artist is now making her long awaited Follies' debut. Her first hit was "The Morning After," from the motion picture The Poseidon Adventure, and earned it an Oscar; and her, a Gold Record and a #1 slot on the Billboard Charts. Her follow-up hits include "We May Never Love Like This Again" and "Can You Read My Mind?" After the show the group will enjoy a hosted dinner at the Kaiser Grille. On day three we will put on our "Blue Suede Shoes" and tour Elvis Presley's Estate. Elvis recorded nine songs for RCA in the living room of this historic home in 1973. The group

will enjoy a guided tour full of fun facts and hosted lunch. That evening travelers will enjoy Palm Springs famous Villagefest, voted the best event in the area, attracting thousands of visitors each week. Each block offers great street entertainment in the heart of the downtown area. Browse more than 200 booths offering beautiful art, handcrafted items and unique food. Shop in one the many shops along Palm Canyon Drive. Many shops, galleries, and restaurants stay open late. Price includes 5 hosted meals (2 lunches/3 dinners), baggage handling and gratuities. *Bus leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Tuesday and returns at approximately 5:30 PM on Friday.*

**Marvelous Wonderettes      No. 44689      Sunday, February 26**  
**\$106 per person**

**Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 1/2 hour drive; long period of sitting.**

We'll begin our day with a hosted lunch at Joe's of Half Moon Bay. Lunch will include choice of Linguine Con Pollo, Baked Lasagna with Meat Sauce, or Fettuccine Alfredo. All meals will include Minestrone Soup, Cheese Cake, and a non-alcoholic beverage. Following lunch we will enjoy a performance of an irresistible musical comedy, the Marvelous Wonderettes, at the Coastal Repertory Theatre. Writer Roger Bean transports the audience to the Springfield high 1958 Prom where we meet the Wonderettes — Betty Jean, Cindy Lou, Missy and Suzy — four girls with hopes and dreams as big as their crinoline skirts and voices to match. As we learn about their lives and loves, we are treated to the girls performing beautifully arranged renditions of classic '50s songs including Mr. Sandman, Lollipop, All I Have To Do Is Dream, Sincerely and Sugartime. After intermission, the audience is in for a wonderful surprise as you're whisked away to the girls' ten-year reunion. The Wonderettes perform again with high-octane and soulful renditions of classic '60s tunes such as Heatwave, Son of a Preacher Man, Rescue Me and Respect, and we see how their friendships have changed and endured in this captivating new Off-Broadway hit. *Bus leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

**Jackson Rancheria Casino      No. 44696      Wednesday, February 29**  
**\$40 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

By popular demand, we are going to Jackson Rancheria in Jackson. Let the games begin! There are 49 gaming tables, 9 poker tables featuring Texas Hold 'Em and over 1500 slot and video poker machines for your enjoyment. Dining options include the buffet lunch at Raging River or an expanded menu at Uncle Bud's. For a quick snack there's the Café Express, offering hot dogs, salads, sweet treats, side dishes, and beverages. Casino bonus: \$10 slot play and \$5 food credit. Bonuses subject to change without notice. *Bus leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

**Greystone & Oxbow Market      No. 44697      Tuesday, March 6**  
**\$118 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

The Culinary Institute of America at Greystone in St. Helena has been setting the standard for excellence in professional culinary education for many years. The award-winning restaurant provides a "dining experience" filled with diverse cuisine and enticing flavors. Tour the magnificent stone mansion, culinary school, grounds, and marketplace followed by a 3-course hosted luncheon prepared and served by great chefs of tomorrow under the guidance of world-class chef-instructors. We'll travel to Oxbow Public Market, featuring the work of local artisan specialties including olives, wine, cheese, chocolate, ice cream, bakery goods, meats, seafood, coffee, tea, spices, fresh produce, hand made crafts and gift items. We'll tour the market offering a fun and educational experience followed by free time to sip, taste, and shop! *Bus leaves promptly at 8:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:30 PM.*

**Whale Watching Expedition    No. 44698    Wednesday, March 14**

**\$140 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 1/2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting; wear non-slip shoes and be prepared for cold weather and rough waters.**

Enjoy a 2 ½-3 hour cruise with Princess Monterey Whale Watching, specializing in natural history and biology of marine wildlife for over 30 years! The cruise will be fully narrated by marine biologists/naturalists with many years of experience on the Monterey Bay. The vessels used are the two largest and most comfortable boats in the bay and are operated by licensed, experienced captains. Don't miss this unique opportunity to view the diverse inhabitants of the Monterey Bay that may include whales, dolphins, sharks, sea lions, seals, jellyfishes, sea turtles, and seabirds. We'll enjoy a hosted waterfront lunch at Bubba Gump's. All meals include entrée of your choice, Mama's Garlic Bread, Gump House Salad, chef's choice of dessert, and soda, coffee or tea. *Bus leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM.*

**Red Hawk Casino    No.45876    Tuesday, March 20**

**\$40 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 2 1/2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

Spend 4 hours at Red Hawk Casino, situated on an impressive mountain top in the City of Placerville. Red Hawk offers a new class of excitement and gaming action which includes: 2,100 Slots, Progressive Slots, 75 Table Games, Premier High-Limit Area, and an entirely Non-Smoking Lower Level, plus Premium Restaurants. Upon arrival with valid I.D., receive a Casino Bonus of \$10.00 Slot Play. Bonuses subject to change without notice. *Bus leaves promptly at 7:30 AM and returns at approximately 5:30 PM.*

**Cirque du Soleil TOTEM    No. 44690    Friday, March 23**

**\$91 per person**

**Activity level: LOW – approx. 15 minute drive; long period of sitting.**

Enjoy this Cirque Du Soleil production from center-stage seats under the Grand Chapiteau in San Jose. TOTEM traces the fascinating journey of the human species from its original amphibian state to its ultimate desire to fly. Inspired by many founding myths, TOTEM illustrates, through a visual and acrobatic language, the evolutionary progress of species. Somewhere between science and legend TOTEM explores the ties that bind Man to other species, his dreams and his infinite potential. *Bus leaves promptly at 3:00 PM and will return at approximately 7:00 PM.*

**Filoli Gardens & San Mateo Historical Museum    No. 44699    Thursday, March 29**

**\$110 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 1/2 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

We'll travel to Woodside for a docent led tour of the gardens at Filoli, recognized as one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20th century and a historic site. There will also be free time while on the property. Enjoy a hosted lunch at The Van's on the Hill in Belmont, a historical landmark and local favorite since 1947, offering breathtaking views of the San Francisco Bay. Guests will choose their entrée upon arrival. Meal includes: mixed green salad, coffee and apple pie. In the afternoon we'll visit the San Mateo County Historical Museum in the Old County Courthouse for a docent led tour. There will also be time for a self-guided tour in this innovative museum that features interactive experiences and long-term exhibits where you can explore the county's rich and colorful history. *Bus leaves promptly at 9:15 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

**Day at Pier 39    No. 45877    Thursday, April 12**

**\$37 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

Enjoy a leisurely day at Pier 39 to do what you please. There will be plenty of time to browse through the shops, have lunch, people watch, and even take a boat ride. Lunch and activities are not included in fee. *Bus leaves promptly at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 4:00 PM.*

**ARF & Lindsay Wildlife Museum    No. 45879    Wednesday, April 18**

**\$98 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

In May of 1990, during a baseball game between the Oakland A's and the New York Yankees, a stray cat wandered onto the playing field. Terrified by the roar of the crowd, the frightened feline dashed about, eluding umpires and players. Tony La Russa, then the manager of the A's, coaxed the cat into the dugout, secured its safety for the remainder of the game, then took responsibility for placing it with a local shelter. To his dismay, Tony discovered there was not a single No-Kill facility in the East Bay. When Tony learned the cat would be euthanized, he and his wife, Elaine, named her "Evie" and found a home for her. His experience with this cat was the genesis for the founding of ARF, a No-Kill organization dedicated to bringing people and animals together to enrich each other's lives. A docent led tour of this 37,000 foot state of the art facility will include the learning center, hospital and kennels. We'll stop for a hosted lunch at McCovey's Restaurant, always a favorite! Entrée choices include Pulled Pork Sandwich, Cheeseburger, or Walnut, Pear & Bleu Cheese Salad. Meal includes choice of non-alcoholic beverage and fresh baked brownie for dessert. After lunch we'll connect with wildlife and learn about the animals found in our backyards and open spaces at Lindsay Wildlife Museum. You can have close encounters with many live, non-releasable wild animals such as an eagle, hawk, fox, snake or coyote. An on-site wildlife hospital treats more than 6,000 native California animals every year. The museum also features changing art and natural history exhibits. *Bus leaves promptly at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 5:00 PM.*

**Golden Gate Fields    No. 45878    Thursday, April 26**

**\$72 per person**

**Activity level: LOW – approx. 1 hour drive; moderate walking; some stairs; elevator available.**

Enjoy Thoroughbred horse racing at Golden Gate Fields in Berkeley. A buffet lunch at the Turf Club will include prime rib, chicken, a variety of salads, fresh fruits, desserts, and a non-alcoholic beverage. View the races from your Turf Club seats. Please remember there is a dress code of "Business Casual," meaning no jeans, shorts, tank tops, or flip flops. Men must wear collared shirts. *Bus leaves promptly at 10:00 AM and returns at approximately 6:15 PM.*

**Yosemite Getaway    No. 44700    Sunday, April 29 – Tuesday, May 1**

**Per person: \$710 double occupancy and \$975 single occupancy**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 4 1/2 hour drive to Yosemite with a stop along the way.**

Join us for a 3-day getaway to Yosemite National Park, California's National Treasure. You will be surrounded by nature at its best: a grand collection of waterfalls, beautiful meadows, and forests that include groves of Giant Sequoias. Price includes round-trip transportation on a deluxe Royal Coach motor coach, baggage handling, gratuities, a two-night stay at the Yosemite Lodge near Yosemite Falls, lunch at the Wawona Hotel, a Yosemite Valley Floor Tour, dinner at the Ahwahnee Hotel, and two breakfasts. Due to the strict reservation/cancellation policy at Yosemite Lodge, the full amount for the trip is due at time of registration. *Bus leaves promptly at 8:00 AM on Sunday and returns at approximately 6:00 PM on Tuesday.*

**SFO Aviation Library & Museum      No. 45880      Thursday, May 10**  
**\$82 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; periods of walking, standing, and sitting.**

The San Francisco Airport Commission Aviation Library and Louis A. Turpen Aviation Museum provides unique opportunities for learning about the development of commercial aviation and the role it plays in our everyday lives. Located in the International Terminal, it is an architectural adaptation of the Airport's 1930s passenger lobby. The collection focuses on air transport with an emphasis on the West Coast and the Pacific region. Our visit will include a docent led tour of the exhibits, ride aboard the air tram, as well as a canine security demonstration. We will be going to Basque Cultural Center for a hosted "Family Style" lunch that includes soup, salad, two entrees, ice cream, and coffee or tea. On our return home we'll visit the See's Candy outlet offering all the See's seasonal favorites at outlet prices! *Bus leaves promptly at 9:00 AM and returns at approximately 4:45 PM.*

**SF Giants vs. St. Louis Cardinals      No. 45881      Thursday, May 17**  
**\$74 per person**

**Activity level: MEDIUM – approx. 1 hour drive; long walk to seats from bus.**

It's off to San Francisco for a game at AT&T Park. Feel the energy in the ballpark as the 2010 World Champion Giants take on the 2011 World Champion St. Louis Cardinals, now managed by a fan favorite Mike Matheny. Game time is 12:45 PM. Our reserved seats are located in a shaded area in the lower box level by left field. We will be dropped off at the entrance near the Orlando Cepeda statue for easy access to our seats. There will be plenty of time to explore the park and purchase food before the game begins. *Bus leaves promptly at 10:15 AM and returns at approximately 5:45 PM.*

### **Let's Eat Healthy in 2012!**

In support of the Senior Centers focus on healthy eating, we will provide bottled water only for our Adventures To Go trips. We encourage you to bring healthy snacks to keep up your energy while traveling.

### **LOOK WHAT'S COMING IN 2012!**

Solvang Getaway – Tues., June 19 through Thurs., June 21

SF Giants vs. LA Dodgers – Sun., July 29

War Horse – Sun., September 9

Santa Cruz Follies – September, date to be determined

SF Giants vs. San Diego Padres (Fan Appreciation Day) – Sun., September 23

Beach Blanket Babylon Christmas Show – December, date to be determined

These trips and many more will be released throughout the year following Let's Talk Travel. Check the monthly *Adventures to Go Newsletter* for details and registration information.